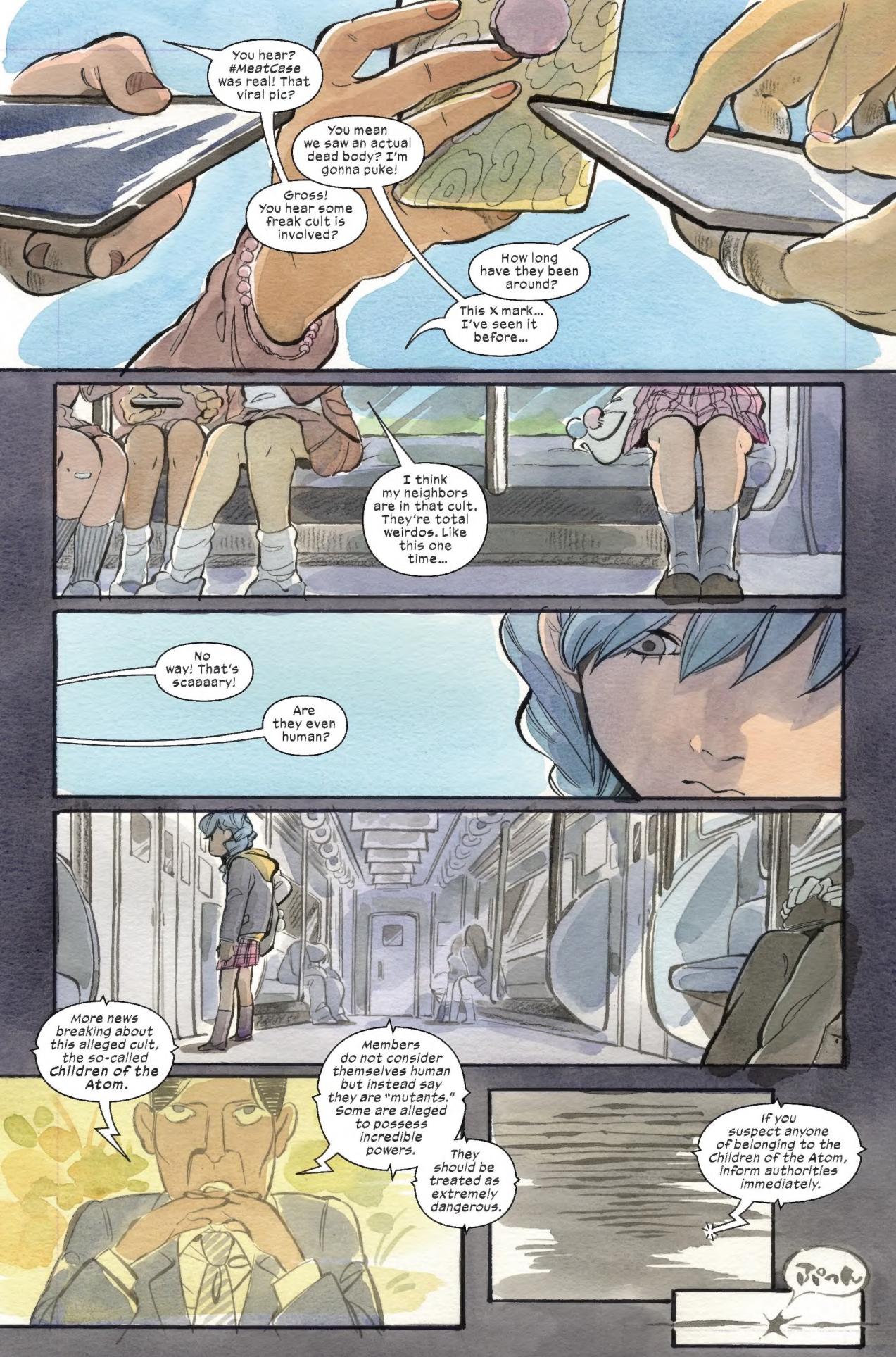
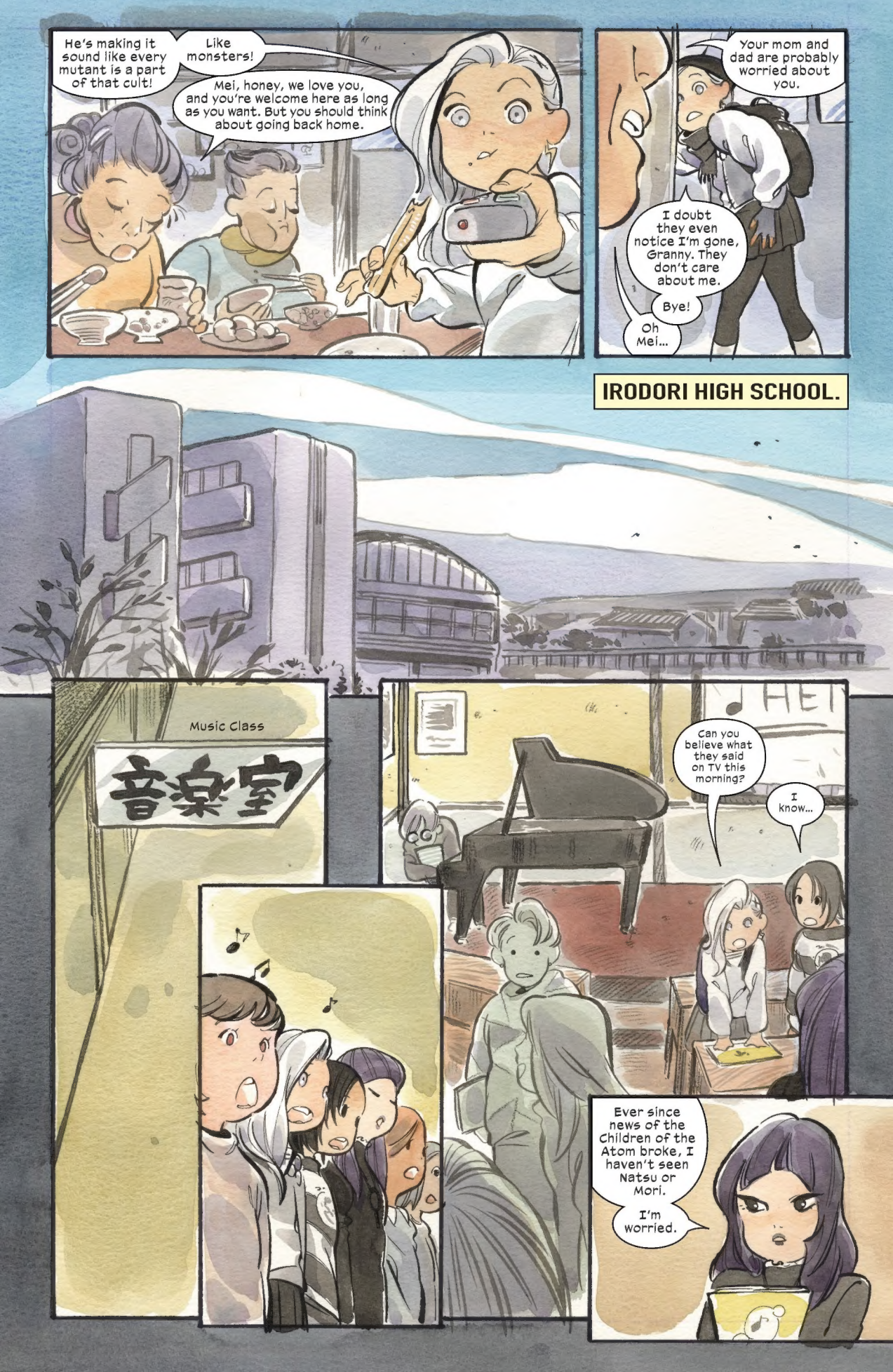
MARVEL

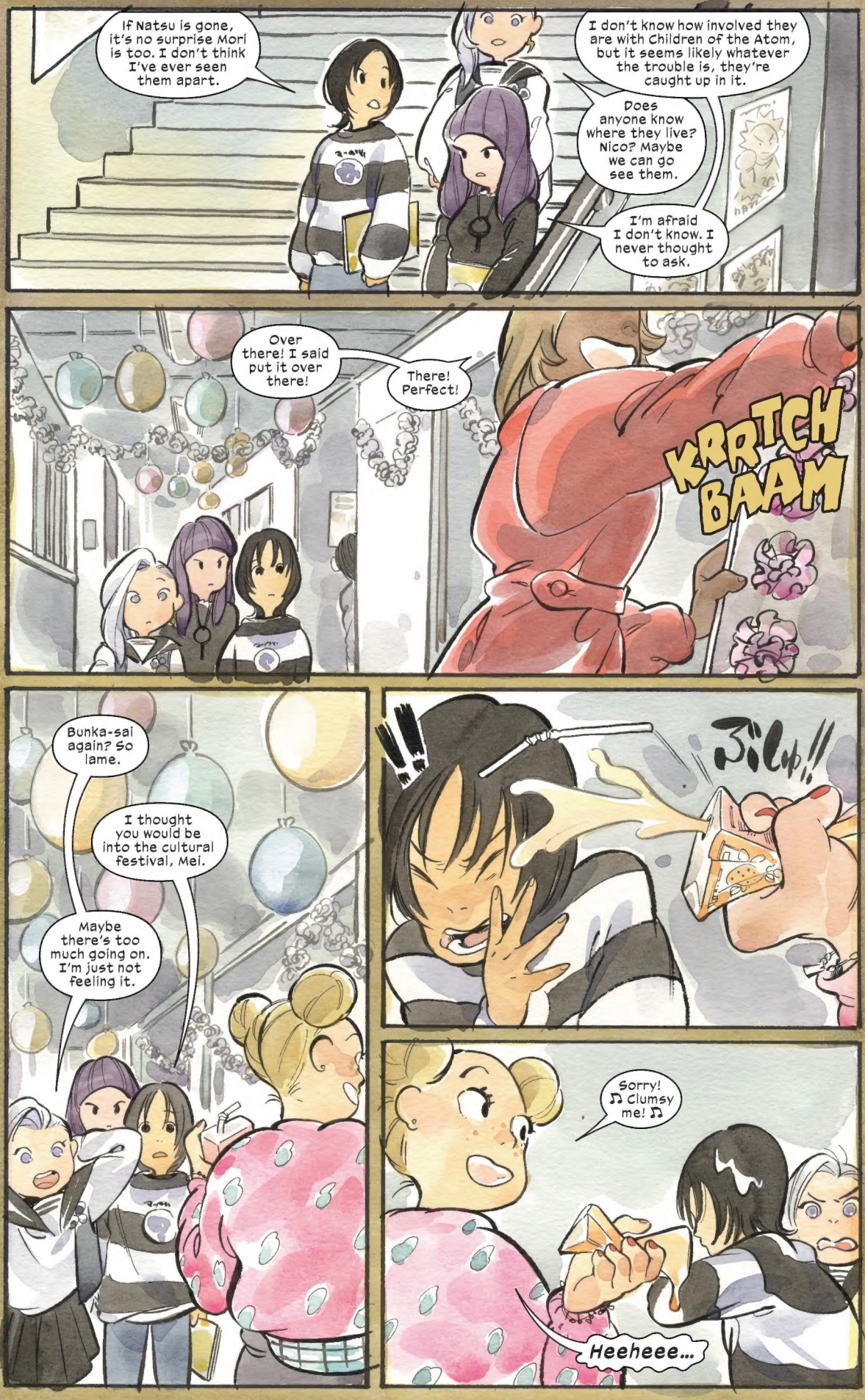
# ULTIMATE X-MEN

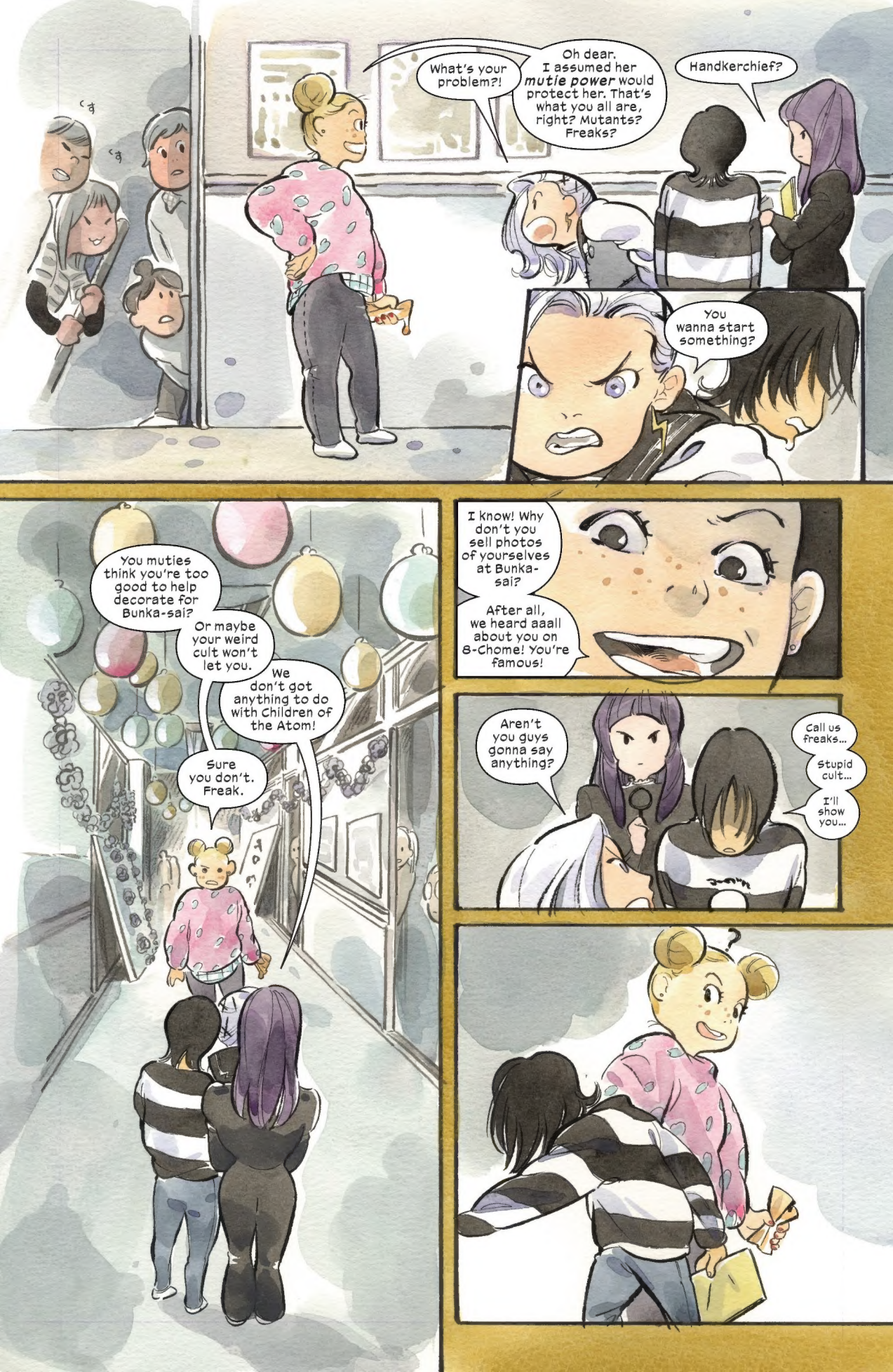
PEACH MOMOKO

NOV. 2024 | RATED T+

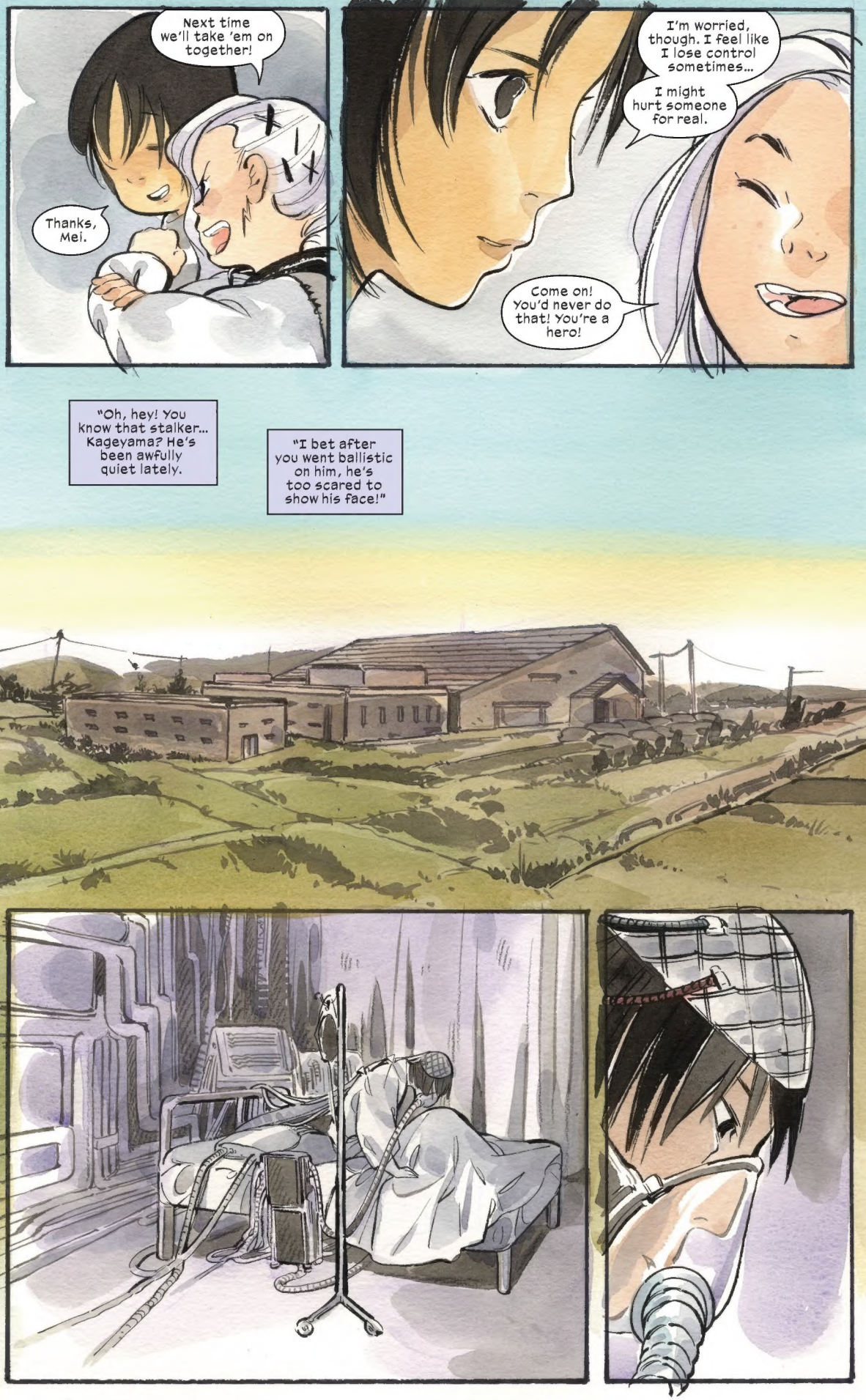

You hear? #MeatCase was real! That viral pic?
You mean we saw an actual dead body? I'm gonna puke!
Gross! You hear some freak cult is involved?
How long have they been around?
This X mark... I've seen it before...
I think my neighbors are in that cult. They're total weirdos. Like this one time...
No way! That's scaaaary!
Are they even human?
More news breaking about this alleged cult, the so-called Children of the Atom.
Members do not consider themselves human but instead say they are "mutants." Some are alleged to possess incredible powers.
They should be treated as extremely dangerous.
If you suspect anyone of belonging to the Children of the Atom, inform authorities immediately.
ポーン

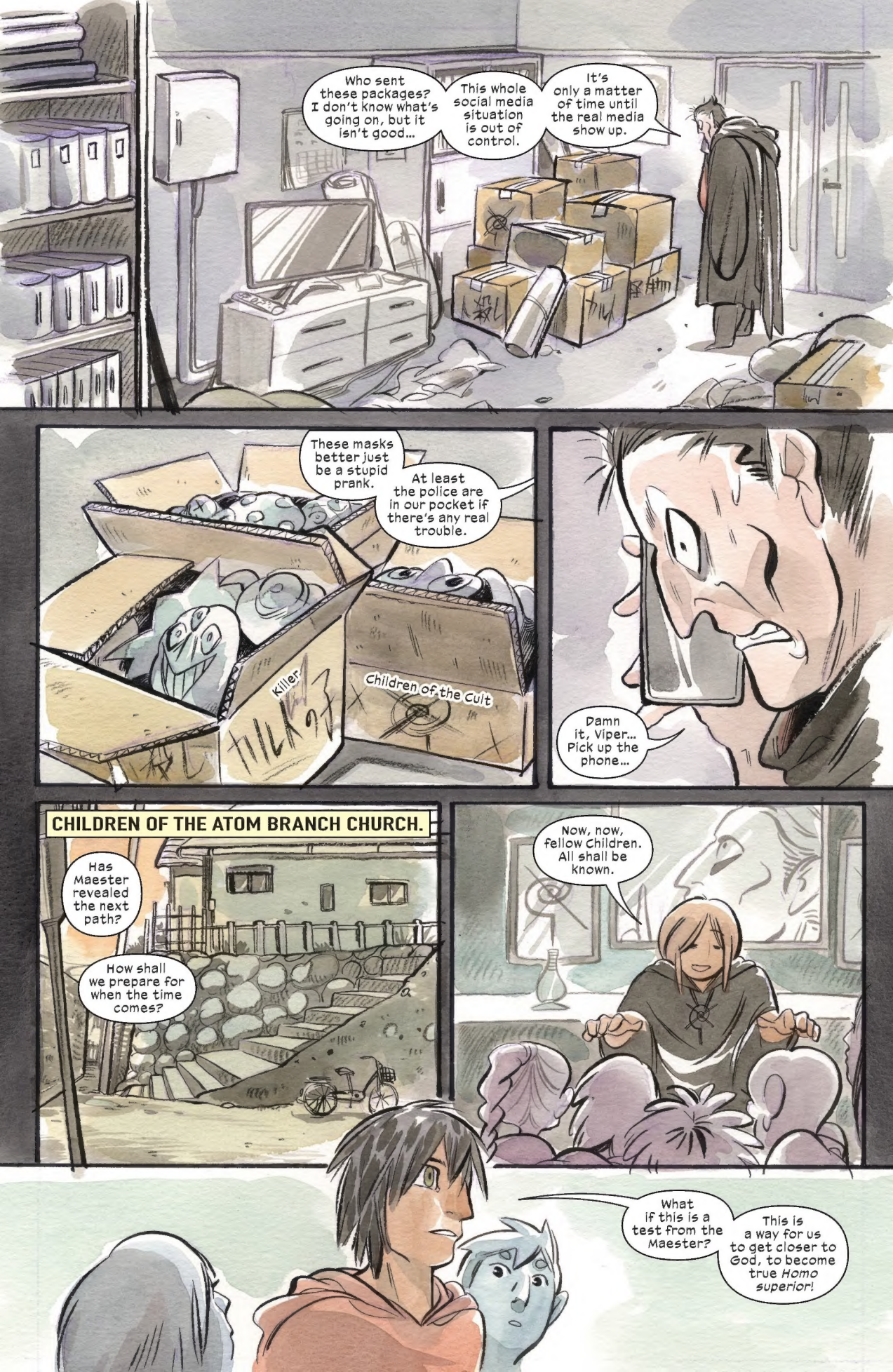

He's making it sound like every mutant is a part of that cult!
Like monsters!
Mei, honey, we love you, and you're welcome here as long as you want. But you should think about going back home.
Your mom and dad are probably worried about you.
I doubt they even notice I'm gone, Granny. They don't care about me.
Bye!
Oh Mei...
IRODORI HIGH SCHOOL.
Music Class
音楽室
Can you believe what they said on TV this morning?
I know...
Ever since news of the Children of the Atom broke, I haven't seen Natsu or Mori.
I'm worried.

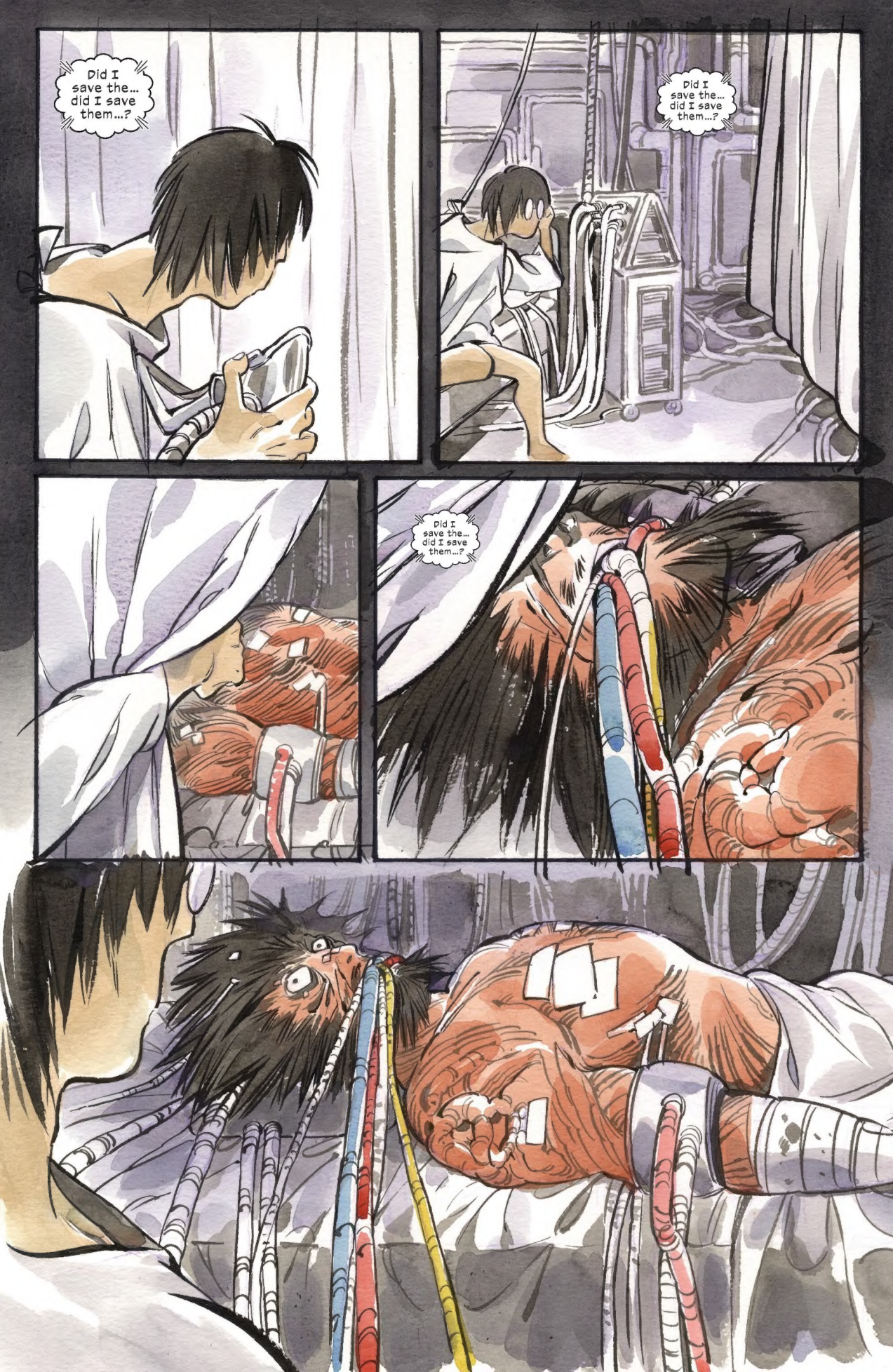

If Natsu is gone, it's no surprise Mori is too. I don't think I've ever seen them apart.
I don't know how involved they are with Children of the Atom, but it seems likely whatever the trouble is, they're caught up in it.
Does anyone know where they live? Nico? Maybe we can go see them.
I'm afraid I don't know. I never thought to ask.
Over there! I said put it over there!
There! Perfect!
KRRTCH
BAAM
Bunka-sai again? So lame.
I thought you would be into the cultural festival, Mei.
Maybe there's too much going on. I'm just not feeling it.
Sorry! ♫ Clumsy me! ♫
Heeheee...


What's your problem?!
Oh dear. I assumed her *mutie power* would protect her. That's what you all are, right? Mutants? Freaks?
Handkerchief?
You wanna start something?
You muties think you're too good to help decorate for Bunka-sai?
Or maybe your weird cult won't let you.
We don't got anything to do with Children of the Atom!
Sure you don't. Freak.
I know! Why don't you sell photos of yourselves at Bunka-sai?
After all, we heard aaall about you on 8-Chome! You're famous!
Aren't you guys gonna say anything?
Call us freaks...
Stupid cult...
I'll show you...

Here's your Bunka-sai!
Hi-chan snapped...
Come on! I just finished that!
I know you've been under a lot of stress due to recent events, Hisako. But that's no excuse for acting out.
職員室
Staff Room
I'm sorry. Thank you. Goodbye.
How'd it go?
I have to write a formal apology to the class.
My sympathies.


Next time we'll take 'em on together!
Thanks, Mei.
I'm worried, though. I feel like I lose control sometimes...
I might hurt someone for real.
Come on! You'd never do that! You're a hero!
"Oh, hey! You know that stalker... Kageyama? He's been awfully quiet lately.
"I bet after you went ballistic on him, he's too scared to show his face!"


Who sent these packages? I don't know what's going on, but it isn't good...
This whole social media situation is out of control.
It's only a matter of time until the real media show up.
These masks better just be a stupid prank.
At least the police are in our pocket if there's any real trouble.
Killer
Children of the Cult
Damn it, Viper... Pick up the phone...
CHILDREN OF THE ATOM BRANCH CHURCH.
Has Maester revealed the next path?
How shall we prepare for when the time comes?
Now, now, fellow Children. All shall be known.
What if this is a test from the Maester?
This is a way for us to get closer to God, to become true *Homo superior*!


Did I save the... did I save them...?
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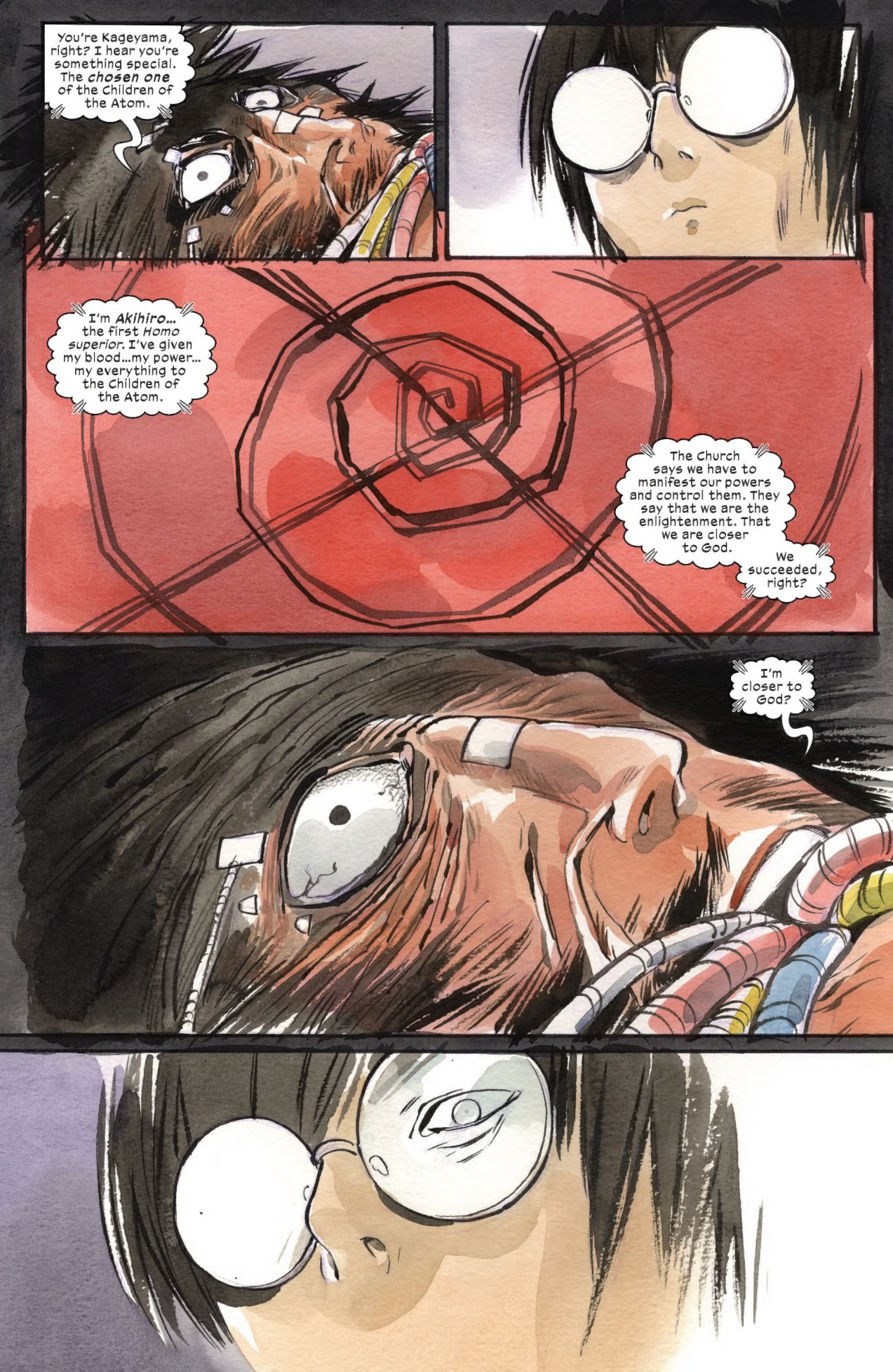

You're Kageyama, right? I hear you're something special. The *chosen one* of the Children of the Atom.
I'm *Akihiro*... the first *Homo superior*. I've given my blood...my power... my everything to the Children of the Atom.
The Church says we have to manifest our powers and control them. They say that we are the enlightenment. That we are closer to God.
We succeeded, right?
I'm closer to God?

Answer me, Chosen One!!!
I have nothing more to give.
Where is my divinity?
When will I be free?!
You can do it! You're the Chosen One!
Free me! Kill me!!!
Please...
You actually believe the world is coming to an end?
You are a fool.

KLIK
Mei...?!
MILK

Mom
Did you come by today?
Mom
At least say hello.
I knew she wasn't worried about me.
Dad?
What's he doing out this late?
...And where's he going?
What the hell?

HEY!!!
Mei?
Dad... what are you doing...?
Busted...
What are you doing out this late?
Your grandmother gave you a curfew. I see you disrespect *her* as well.

Is he your daaaaaddy?
He's nothing to me. Just some scumbag.
Hey! You're not getting off that easy!
Not so fast.

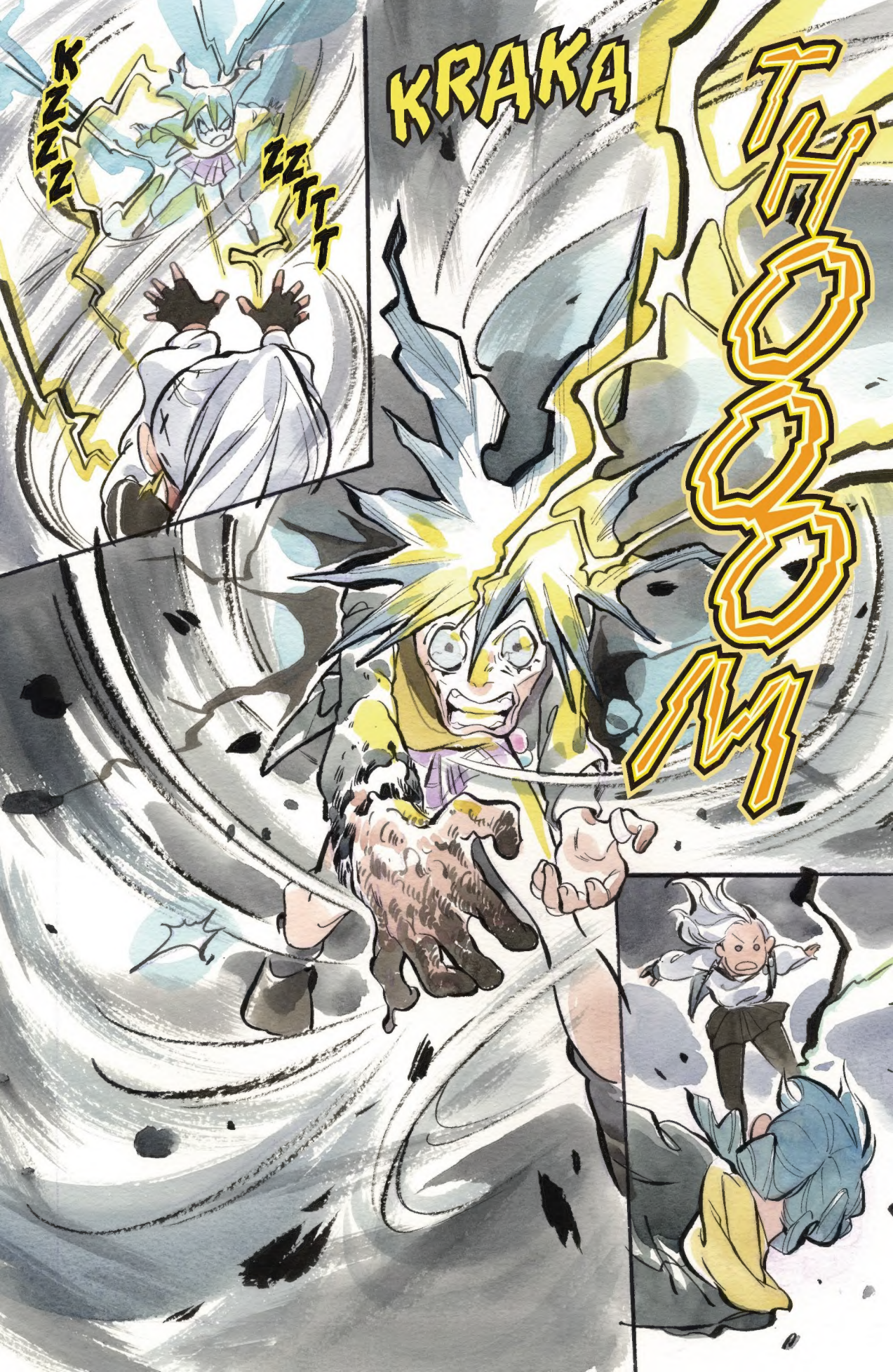
You just cost me a night's work. You at least owe me some fun. Don't you think so...
...Mei.
H-how do you know my name?
I know so much more than your name.
Why don't you show me that wind power of yours? It was so beautiful.
Is that why you targeted my dad? To get to me?
Oh, that was just coincidence. Fathers are the easiest mark--I just hang out with them and they shell out cash.
Or maybe it was fate. Wanna team up and make some money? You know how it works--just talk and maybe go out for some food. It's not like you're sleeping with them.
After all, what's the point of power if you don't use it?

You're a mutant too?!
Call me Surge.

SWWfff
Surge...that number...
Badass, right?
Is that... the Children of the Atom?
Those lunatics think they're gonna save the world. Who cares? The world can go to Hell.
But they knew what they were doing. They jabbed and poked people until they got the formula right. That's *me*.
I used them for what I wanted. To become special.
Isn't that what all parents want for their kids? To be special.

Y-you mean they experimented on you? They made you?
Is that what those dead bodies were for?
Who cares about the failures?
How can you say that? Do you really think you're any better?
I'm here, aren't I? That makes me the winner.
People died to give you those powers. You should use them to help!
Not prey on people's fathers...
You serious? You're gonna lecture me?
Youdon't knowathing aboutme!!!
KRAAAK
110 FL

YEAAAAAARRRG!!!
I hope this works...


KZZZZ
ZZTTT
KRAKA
THOOM

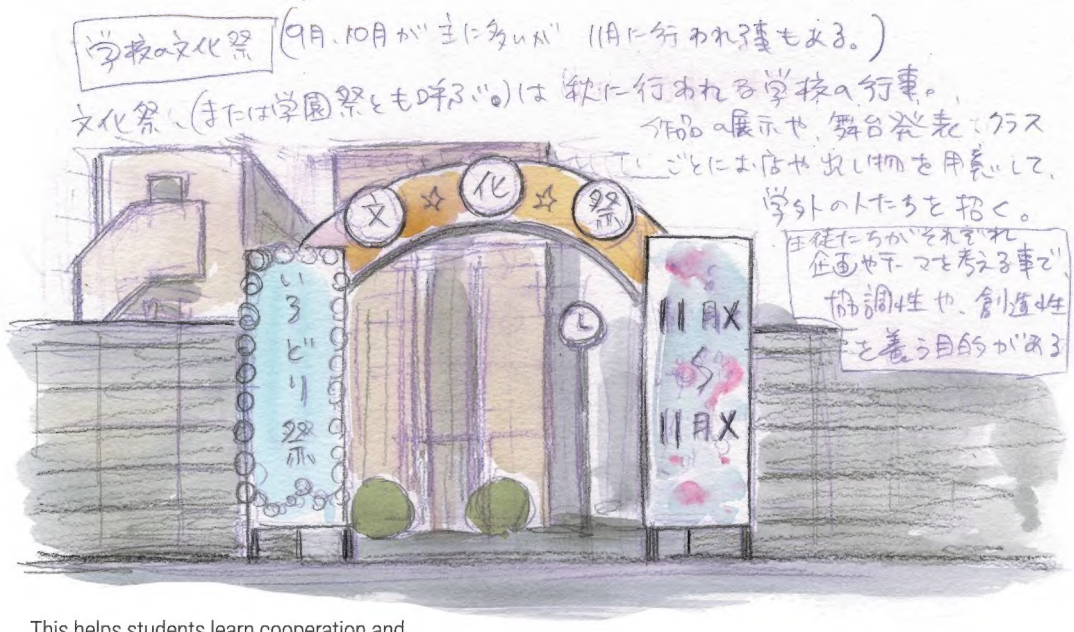
Hey... you okay? I think I overdid it--I can't control my powers...
Ambulance... I'll call an ambulance...
No...
Call my mom... If they know, they'll come after me too.
つづく
To be continued...

# LEXICON

## SCHOOL BUNKA-SAI

Bunka-sai is a school cultural festival that happens generally in September or October, though some schools hold it in November.

Students set up booths throughout the school such as shops, cafes, restaurants, photo booths and more, as well as stage performances and exhibitions of student art and photography, with their classes.




This helps students learn cooperation and creativity by having to work together to come up with their own plans and themes.

During the festival, the school is open to the public.

School hallways are decorated with balloons and paper flowers.

Some students even turn their classrooms into a haunted house.

The gym and court spaces are used for live music.